

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
June 12, 2008
Minutes

Attendees: Mary Feathers, Chair, Chris Kueffner, Secretary, Martha Kelly, Mark LaPlaca, Min Lin, Katherine Paulhus, Superintendent Gordon Schimmel, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin

Absent: Shamim Patwa, Vice-Chair, Gary Bent, Dudley Hamlin, Min Lin

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Ms Feathers, Chair.

II. Approval of Minutes - **MOTION by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. LaPlaca to approve the minutes of the 5-8-08, 5-22-08, and 6-3-08 meetings. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.**

Dr. Patwa arrived at 7:40 p.m.

Ms Lin arrived at 7:50 p.m.

III. Special Presentations: The Board honored Mrs. Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal, Southeast Elementary School as Connecticut's National Distinguished Principal of the Year and Dr. Gordon L. Schimmel, Superintendent of Schools, retiring after 21 years of service to the district.

IV. Hearing for Visitors – None

V. Communications – The Board received a letter from Barbara Hunter and Carrie Holman, co-presidents of the Mansfield Educators' Association.

VI. Committee Reports – Mrs. Kelly announced that Karen Anger, elementary art teacher at Goodwin and Southeast Schools, is the 2009 Teacher of the Year.

VII. Report of the Superintendent:

- A. Healthy Food Certification– **MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded by Dr. Patwa to adopt the Connecticut Nutrition Standards Healthy Food Certification Statement for the 2008-2009 school year. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor with Mr. Kueffner abstaining. The Board directed the Superintendent to be responsible for certifying that the standards are met. **MOTION** by Dr. Patwa, seconded by Mrs. Kelly to adopt the Connecticut Nutrition Standards Exclusion for the 2008-2009 school year. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor with Mr. Kueffner abstaining.**
- B. 2008-2009 Food Service Price Increase–**MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded by Dr. Patwa to approve an increase in school meal prices for the 2008-2009 school year. **VOTE:** Unanimous. **MOTION** by Dr. Patwa, seconded by Mr. Kueffner to approve no more than a \$.10 increase in milk carton prices for the 2008-2009 school year. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor with Mrs. Paulhus abstaining. The Superintendent, with advice from the Food Service Director, will determine the price.**
- C. Financial Statements Dated March 31, 2008 – **MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded by Ms Lin to accept the Financial Statements Dated March 31, 2008. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.**

- D. Cooperating Teacher Program/Beginning Educator Support and Training Program –MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus to approve the Cooperative/Mentor Teacher training of Ryley Zawodniak, grade 5 reading/language arts teacher, Laura Scruggs, grade 6 reading/language arts teacher, and Heather Tamsin, Title I teacher at Mansfield Middle School. **VOTE:** Unanimous
- E. Class Size/Enrollment** – The building principals reported there is little change in enrollment at the schools.
- F. Personnel – MOTION** by Dr. Patwa, seconded by Mr. LaPlaca to accept the resignation of Tracy Moore, 7th grade mathematics teachers at Mansfield Middle School. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor. **MOTION** by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Ms Lin to approve the employment of Cynthia Harakaly, 8th grade language arts/literature teacher, Mansfield Middle School; Danielle Heersink, speech pathologist, Vinton School; Jessica Marchand, 3rd grade teacher, Goodwin School, and Julie Ratajcak, 3rd grade teacher, Goodwin School, effective July 1, 2008. **VOTE:** Unanimous.

B.

VIII. Hearing for Visitors – None.

IX. Suggestions for Future Agenda – Dr. Patwa requested Youth Services Bureau be invited to a meeting and Ms Feathers asked that the Mansfield Advocates for Children discuss the Leadership Work Group for the 'Blueprint for Mansfield's Children'

X. Executive Session: **MOTION** by Dr. Patwa, seconded by Ms Lin to move into Executive Session at 9:55 p.m. to discuss union contract negotiations and proposed contract for new Superintendent. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor. **MOTION** by Dr. Patwa, seconded by Mr. LaPlaca to return to regular session at 11:25 p.m. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

XI. **MOTION** by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Dr. Patwa to approve the proposed contract with Frederick A. Baruzzi as Superintendent of Schools, effective July 1, 2008, with a total annual salary of \$142,000 for 2008-2009, with the specific breakdown between the cash and annuity components of that salary amount to be finalized by the Board Chair and by Frederick A. Baruzzi before June 30, 2008 and **MOVED FURTHER** that the Board Chair be authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Board. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

XII. **MOTION** by Dr. Patwa, seconded by Mr. LaPlaca to approve the 2008-2009 salaries for the Central Office Professional Staff (Singletons) presented in a memo of June 12, 2008 from Gordon L. Schimmel excepting the Informational Technology Director position salary which shall be increased according to the step schedule currently being referenced for the position with the first annual review to take place by the anniversary date of the contract. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

XIII. Adjournment - **MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner to adjourn at 11:55 p.m. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk